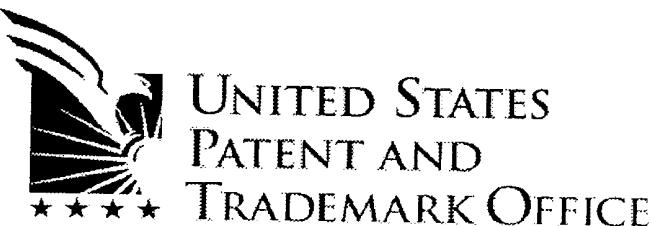


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11-14-01



UNITED STATES
PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
AND DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
WWW.USPTO.GOV

In re Application of
Zahner and Sharda
Serial No.: 09/919,298
Filed: July 31, 2001
Attorney Docket No.: 16850-8184

This is in response to "PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 CFR 1.102 (C)" filed by applicant on July 31, 2001.

Applicant's Petition was filed under 37 CFR 1.102 (C). 37CFR 1.102 (C) states:

"A petition to make an application special may be filed without a fee if the basis for the petition is the applicant's age or health or that the invention will materially enhance the quality of the environment or materially contribute to the development or conservation of energy resources,"

It is clear that applicant's petition is filed on grounds other than those referred above. Therefore, the petition is treated as filed under 37 CFR 1.102 (d) and a petition fee of \$130 has been charged.

Applicant have established their status as a small entity. Applicant states that the above mentioned application is the major asset of the COMPANY, and that the development of the technology described in the above mentioned application will be significantly impaired if the examination of the patent application is delayed.

Based on the statements and evidence provided the Petition is **Granted**.

Should there be any questions regarding this communication, please contact Cecilia Tsang by mail addressed to Director, Technology Center 1600, Washington, D.C. 20231, or by telephone at (703) 308-0254 or by facsimile transmission at (703) 308-3890.

Cecilia Tsang fm

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